

# Community Newsletter – June 2012

*Edition No 15*



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## \*\*\* Tarbet Welcomes the Olympic Torch \*\*\*

Celebrations are taking place to welcome the Olympic Torch Relay, which is passing through Tarbet on the shores of Loch Lomond on Saturday **June 9, 2012** at around 10 am. **All visitors to the event are encouraged to wear yellow, orange or gold to reflect the excitement of the famous flame and create a wonderful photo opportunity!**

Arrochar Primary School Parent Teacher Association invites pupils, parents and the community to join the celebrations and cheer the Torch Bearers through the village. Golden-yellow decorations will line the route by Arrochar Primary School's gates, while pupils have made their own glittery torches to wave as the Torch passes. The PTA and Arrochar and Tarbet Community Council have gifted to each pupil a T-shirt with a special Olympic-style logo designed by one of the pupils, as a memento of the occasion.

As part of the Olympic Torch Relay and the Summer of Song Programme provided by Argyll and Bute Council and Creative Scotland, a specially commissioned song is planned to be performed in Tarbet as the Torch Bearers pass through the village. This exciting innovation will bring a compilation of choirs from across Argyll and Bute performing in Gaelic along with the children from Arrochar Primary School. Pipers and drummers from the successful 2012 Celtic Connections production of 'Move' by Wild Biscuit will also feature. A range of other visitor facilities will be available in the village including free public parking, a tea room, Loch Lomond cruises, accommodation, and other refreshment outlets.

Families are welcome to congregate at 9am in the safety of the school playground. At around 10.10am, spectators will have optimum views at the roadside as the Torch changes hands and is carried slowly through the village. From 10.30am, a free buffet donated by the Tarbet Hotel will be available in the Hotel.

## Update on the Latest Trust Plans and Activities

Arrochar & Tarbet CDT is moving into a new phase of development and community related projects with various funding applications having been made recently, including applications to both the Heritage Lottery Fund and Argyll and Bute LEADER for "The Hidden Heritage of a Landscape – Vengeful Vikings to Restless Rustlers", an archeologically based investigation of the landscape between Arrochar and Tarbet. The second is an application to the Coastal Communities Fund of the Lottery in respect of the proposed pontoon to replace the existing derelict pier in Arrochar opening up the community's access to the Clyde Estuary via Loch Long. The outcome of these applications will be known towards the middle of June 2012. For further information on any of these matters, please contact Iain Dick on 702495.

## The 3 Villages Café & Pit Stop Take Away Arrochar

The Arrochar & Tarbet Community Development Trust bought the Pit Stop Café & Take Away as a social enterprise in 2004. The Café was next door to the proposed new village hall site which the Trust was at that time raising funds for. The Trust's vision in buying the café which would provide local employment, training and funds to support the hall was a major factor in the successful funding bids for the hall.

Since opening members of staff have achieved S. V. Q's in various catering and hospitality skills and all have food handling certificates.

While the café, like most local businesses, has struggled over the past few years it has been able to pay the Trust the £6000 per year to cover the loan costs and building insurance and more recently to contribute an additional £200 per month to the Trust funds.

In April last year it was decided to rename the café The 3 Villages Café in line with the hall name. It was decided to retain the Pit Stop name for the Take Away and no doubt to locals it will always be the Pit Stop!

The café is open 7am till 5pm. and offers breakfasts, lunches, afternoon teas with home baking and in Summer provides evening meals.



Manager Duncan Murray standing at 'front of house' with Assistants Jamie Roy and Helen Brady

## News from your Three Villages Hall

### Launch of new Hall Website - <http://threevillageshall.org.uk>

The new Hall web site is finally being launched at the end of June following a fair bit of time and effort by the 'web team' over the past year. With funding support from LEADER for the hosting costs we have an exciting and revamped site giving customers, visitors and businesses an informative insight to the 3VH. It is hoped that the site will help in marketing both the Hall and Village facilities, with links to Facebook and Twitter, while also expounding the variety of entertainment and catering options that the Hall can provide, particularly as we now have a new alcohol licence. There is also a community section with brief backgrounds to each of the three villages, a calendar giving information on community events and an opportunity to advertise the range of clubs and groups that locals and visitors can join. So to see what is happening in the Hall and locale hit the above address at the end of the month !!!

**New Slimming Class** - started in April and held at 7pm on Tuesdays. If you would like to lose weight and feel your best just phone Susan on **07957131918** for further details.

**Pilates Classes** - are held on Thursdays at 10am. and have proved to be very popular — all that twisting and bending must be doing the job!. Bring a mat, hand towel and comfortable clothing. Please ring 01310 703628 / 07796830691 to book your place.

**Digital Camera Group Voted Great Success** The Digital Camera course was completed at the end of April and was so popular that it was split over two sessions per week. Feedback from attendees has been very positive with much credit going to tutor Rhona Dick for her patience and support.

The display of best results of the course will be shown in the Hall with a special opening evening from **6.30 to 8.30 pm on Friday 22nd June** where everyone is invited to view the talents of course members over a drink or two - you may need a drink to guess what the subject matter is!

Several people have also expressed an interest in a Camera Club meeting on a monthly basis. If this appeals to you please leave your name and contact details with the reception at the Three Villages Hall.



**Saturday Sticky Buns** - Ruby and Ina survey the delicious range of home baking at a recent Hall coffee morning

### Three Villages Computer Club

The over 60s Computer Club continues to prove popular. The Club meets on Thursday morning from 11 to 12, computers are available, or you are welcome to bring your own laptop.

Caroline Logan and Rhona Dick aim to introduce you to aspect of computing that interest you. In the past they have held sessions on Google Earth, Google Maps, and how to take advantage of cheaper travel opportunities by booking through the internet. If you would like to come along, or just want to find out more, please contact Rhona 702495, or Caroline 702588. The cost is £3 per session.

Further Starting from Scratch with Computing and Digital Photography Courses will be arranged if there is sufficient demand. Please contact Rhona or Caroline to register your interest.

**Basic Spreadsheets** - It is also proposed to run a series of classes introducing Basic Spreadsheets to those who would like to manage their business, domestic accounts or just enjoy using numbers and mathematics to solve problems. There are a wide range of uses for spreadsheets and the course will be tailored to suit the needs of those attending in order to maximise the benefit to the participants. This course will use Excel as the basic platform, but other programs can be explored if required. It is anticipated that this course will start in September 2012, and if this is of interest let Iain Dick (702495) know.

### And things to look forward to ....

**Concerts** - Scottish band **Skerryvore**, are compiling their 2012 schedule and will shortly confirm their gig at the 3VH. Their new album 'World of Chances' launches on June 25th. Watch the Hall website for details.

**Scottish Hill Race** - 250 competitors will be participating in this strenuous 22km Arrochar Alps challenge. Come and support them on 25th June !!!

**Doors Open Day** - Once again the 3VH will be participating in this annual event, which takes place in September, and which allows the public to view our iconic buildings in the area. Look out for details during the summer.

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